

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)
Inquiry Regarding Carrier Current)
Systems, including Broadband over)
Power Line Systems)
)

ET Docket No. 03-104

REPLY COMMENTS OF
JOHN ZITZELBERGER
To Comments of
PHONEX BROADBAND CORPORATION
Dated 6 July 2003

Here are Reply Comments of John Zitzelberger to comments filed by Phonex Broadband Corporation, in this document referred to as "Phonex."

These replies refer to Phonex's original Response to Notice of Inquire ET Docket No. 03-104, filed the seventh day of July, 2003. Phonex's comments, or excerpts thereof, are noted as "Comment", followed by my reply, noted as "Reply". These immediately follow below.

I.

Comment:

Section titled "Interference from BPL Emissions", third paragraph:

"Phonex has sold several thousand HomePlug-based BPL products with no complaints of interference. This is likely indicative of other HomePlug devices because HomePlug developed their standard to limit harmful interference while having a functional product. Efforts included working with groups such as the ARRL to limit potential interference within the amateur radio community.

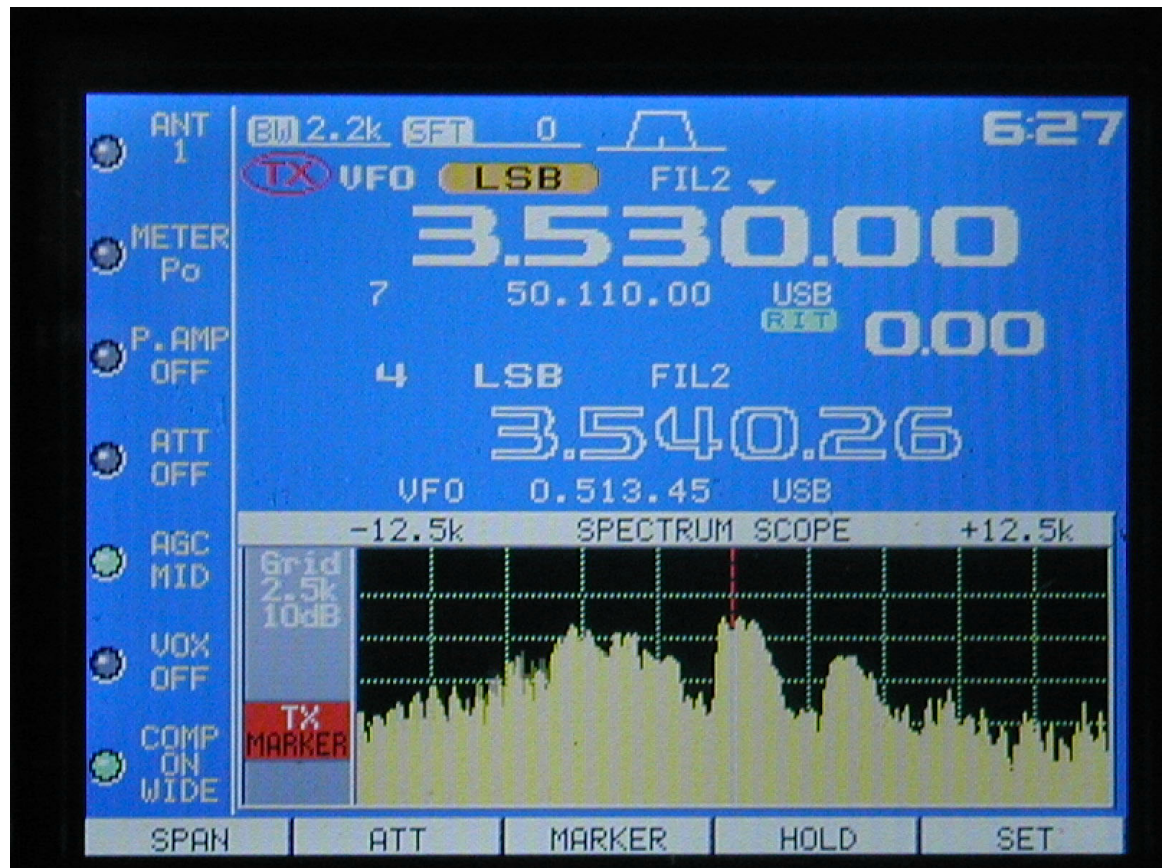
Reply:

I appreciate Phonex's efforts attempting to mitigate interference to licensed services created by the home consumer based carrier current devices it has placed on the market. Despite their efforts I continue to receive interference from what I believe is a Phonex model PX-421 Wireless Modem / Telephone jack operating under the same Part 15 rules proposed on the low end of the 80-meter amateur band. I have suffered this interference for at least three years and it is so debilitating that the most useful portion of the lower end of the 80 meter amateur band is all but useless at my location.

Figure 1, below, is a photograph of the display of an IC-756pro transceiver, which includes a spectral display. It is used here to demonstrate the interference from a common carrier Part 15 operated device.

Figure 1:

Spectral Display of Interference Received from a Common Carrier Wireless Modem / Telephone Jack at amateur station W6GL. There are several modulated carriers, the strongest, at 3535.3KHz, is 15dB over S9 with the receiver attenuator settings as show. No legitimate amateur signal is stronger in this frequency range than the interfering signals, which span from 3512 to 3547KHz. The interfering source is at least 300 feet away (the nearest home).



Phonex indicates it: “has sold several thousand HomePlug-based BPL products with no complaints of interference.” I wish I knew who to complain to with authority to do something about this problem! I have contacted AT&T, who sent me to GTE, who was purchased by Verizon, who sold their internet communication services to Adelphia who is now in bankruptcy. These “authorities” have done nothing else than point a finger at another, disclaiming any responsibility for the Part 15 devices they may have placed in service which supposedly “must not cause harmful interference . . .”, or worse, simply tell me they didn’t know what I was talking about.

II.

Comment:

Section titled “Interference from BPL Emissions”, fourth paragraph:

Customer complaints of harmful interference in certain bands will direct In-House BPL developers in choosing the frequencies that should be avoided.

Reply:

I do not think it within the spirit of the FCC Part 15 Rules that licensed users of the radio spectrum be given the burden in finding, proving, and justifying the removal of interference produced by unlicensed users. Once BPL technology is “let loose” in such an uncontrolled manner it simply is not in the ability of most licensed users, to eliminate the interference produced.

Closing:

In closing there are several points I would like to summarize:

1. Lack of complaints is not necessarily an indication of lack of a problem. In the current corporate environment where one company is taken over by another, it is difficult to pinpoint someone to take responsibility for and be able to do something about BPL interference to licensed users. Despite BPL proponent's best efforts to address interference, once the device has been sold and installed at a private residence it is probably beyond their means to address interference BPL interference issues.
2. I do not think it is ethical to expect that licensed users be burdened with the responsibility for finding and correcting interference from Part 15 devices.
3. Despite Phonex's best efforts, the interference shown in Figure 1 persists. It is a template for how the entire HF spectrum will look if BPL is adopted.

Respectfully Submitted

John Zitzelberger, W6GL

6, August, 2003